

707/152

BOWLAND
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 1920.

W. HODGSON ROSS,
Medical Officer of Health.

Meadow Bank, Chatburn,
April 18th, 1921.

Thos. Stones, Printer, Castle Street, Clitheroe.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN
OF THE COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN.

I again present to you my Annual Report. There are several schemes for the Building of Houses, but so far very little progress has been made in the actual building.

I should like to see a more healthy public opinion in regard to the various questions affecting the Public Health.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. HODGSON ROSS.

Meadow Bank,

Chatburn,

Near CLITHEROE,

April 18th, 1921.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b294888965>

Bowland Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

GENTLEMEN,

The Rural District of Bowland is a large and scattered one and forms part of the West Riding of Yorkshire.

Limestone is the chief mineral found, but large tracts of the district are of a peaty nature.

The two Rivers in the district are the Ribble and the Hodder. The latter runs the greater part of its length through the centre of the district ; the former divides it from the County of Lancaster. These two rivers form this boundary for seven or eight miles.

In certain parts of the district several other small streams which mostly branch off from the River Ribble form the dividing line between the two administrative areas.

The district has an area of 83,343 acres, and measures about 14 miles from north to south, and 19 miles from east to west.

The 1911 Census gave the Population as 5,357, and the number of Inhabited Houses as 1,150 ; the density of the population therefore being 4.6 per house. This is not excessive, but when the number of houses with two bedrooms is taken into account, the figure does not appear so agreeable.

The Population for 1920 is estimated to be 5,293.

The district is chiefly concerned with agriculture. Milk is produced on a large scale and is sent to the towns.

There are 3 Mills in the district, and from one of the villages numerous people find employment at a neighbouring mill which is just situated in the County of Lancaster on the other side of the Ribble.

The district is practically devoid of all Poor-Law relief, and in the few necessitous cases where it may be given it is entirely due to the loss of the breadwinner, or some other unforeseen or unfortunate circumstances.

All cases that need urgent surgical attention are usually taken to Blackburn Royal Infirmary. Better facilities for transferring these cases would be advantageous.

WATER.

In dealing with the Water Supply of the district one has to give the source of the Water Supply to the individual Villages which constitute the district.

The Corporation of Clitheroe carries its water from the moorland above Grindleton and supplies on its way Great Mitton, Grindleton, West Bradford and Bank Bottoms. This is a very satisfactory supply. During the year water has been laid to the Quakers' Chapel, and house adjoining.

Waddington has a plentiful supply which it gets from Fearcer Brook ; a purer supply, however, could be obtained from Cuttock Clough.

The supply at Bashall Eaves is good and is collected into tanks before it is distributed to the different parts of the Township.

Sawley has a plentiful supply which is chiefly spring water. Its chief disadvantage is that it is not laid on to any of the houses. The village is very scattered, but this would not be a serious drawback as it would enable the inhabitants to have a freer supply.

There are two supplies for Gisburn, both of spring water and very satisfactory.

The supply for Rimington and Stopper Lane is derived from springs and collected into tanks ; it is good and plentiful.

It is spring water at Dalehead. From this place the Fylde Water Board is contemplating carrying water. The work has already commenced, and no doubt the water supply for the inhabitants of the district will be safeguarded.

Holden has an excellent supply of spring water.

The water at Bolton-by-Bowland is gathered into a reservoir from a small brook. A few years ago this brook was liable to contamination, but it is now fenced in. It certainly has improved the supply, but it is not so excellent as it would be if a source of spring water could be found.

There is often a great shortage at Paythorne, which has no springs. Gisburn Forest suffers in a similar way. To overcome the shortage in the latter district a scheme was improvised some years ago, but for some reason or other the work was never commenced. Had this been done, the water could have been carried to Paythorne—a distance of seven miles—which would have enabled both townships to get a satisfactory and plentiful supply. At present these two areas have only a supply from shallow wells, troughs and pumps.

Slaidburn, Newton and Newsholme are supplied in a similar manner,. There would be great difficulty in dealing with the latter place owing to its being so scattered and sparsely populated. Newton presents greater difficulty owing to its springs being at a lower level than a large number of the houses. Water could be laid on at each house in Slaidburn. It has several sources of supply all over the village. I consider a scheme is very urgently needed here.

Several of the farm houses could have a more satisfactory supply ; some of them at present are open to serious contamination.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The Ribble and Hodder suffer very little from pollution and this is chiefly on account of cesspools.

There was a scheme at Grindleton for sewerage the village. This would have removed the pollution of the Ribble objected to by the West Riding Rivers Board. Probably work may be commenced in the near future.

Complaints have been made that a brook was being polluted by the Withgill Piggeries. I visited the place on February 3rd, along with Dr. Kaye, the County Medical Officer. Since that date I am informed that a satisfactory solution has been found.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There have been no new developments during the year.

Grindleton requires sewerage.

The Sanitary Inspector estimates that an additional acre of irrigation land is required at Waddington.

The villages sewered are Gisburn, Waddington, Bolton-by-Bowland, and Holden. There is a settling tank at Holden, but none at the other three villages.

Sink wastes at numerous farmhouses need disconnection.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are still numerous privies with open middens. The number with covered middens is 447. The number of pail-closets is 503, water-closets 202, and waste-water closets 10. Last year the number of pail-closets was 500, and the number of middens 450; 3 covered middens were converted at Holden. Two additional water-closets were placed in new property. There has been no reconstruction of privies during the year.

SCAVENGING.

The work is done by your Council. The villages scavenged are Bolton-by-Bowland, West Bradford, Grindleton, Waddington, Slaidburn and Newton. The Sanitary

Inspector gives me £345 ls. 3d., as the total annual cost, and he allocates the cost to the different villages as follows :

	£	s.	d.
Bolton-by-Bowland	69	15	2
West Bradford.. .. .	40	15	2
Grindleton	98	13	6
Waddington	71	13	10
Slaidburn	58	12	7
Newton	5	11	0
	£345	1	3

The estimated cost for 1919 was £227 ; for 1918, £207.

There is no destructor in the district. There are six tips, the total annual cost for which is £90.

In addition to the above outlying farmhouses are dealt with by the respective tenants.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

45 Inspections were made. There were 10 informal Notices, all of which were complied with. No statutory Notices were served. The total number of Nuisances reported was 13. 7 of these were abated during the year.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

There is one Knacker's Yard, which has been inspected 8 times. In 1919 there were 2 Knacker's yards.

No offensive trades are carried on in the district.

SCHOOLS.

5 Schools were closed owing to infectious disease, viz : Tosside (twice) ; Lane Ends ; Gisburn ; Paythorne, and Bashall Eaves. The infectious diseases prevalent were whooping-cough, scarlet fever, measles and influenza. Owing to whooping-cough, I recommended Tosside School to be closed from January 8th to February 5th. On the former date only 16 out of 54 children were present. I ascertained that 24 were absent with whooping-cough, and that there were 9 suspected cases in addition. On February 3rd, 25 children were still affected so further closure was made until February 26th.

The attendance at this School was affected later in the year owing to an epidemic of influenza. On May 4th, only 8 scholars were present. The classes were therefore discontinued from May 5th to May 12th.

At Lane Ends School 35% of the children were absent  owing to an outbreak of whooping-cough on March 18th. I deferred action until March 21st, on which date only 28% were present. I then advised the School to be closed from March 22nd to April 12th.

At Gisburn School there was an outbreak of Scarlet Fever and Measles. On the re-opening of the School after the Easter Holidays, only 12 out of 76 scholars were present. It was therefore closed from April 7th to April 28th. On the latter date the epidemic of measles had not subsided, so further closure was made until May 5th. I do not think that there would have been any necessity to close Gisburn School on account of scarlet fever if proper precautions had been taken. Some of the cases instead of being isolated properly for 6 weeks, were allowed to mix with their fellows at the end of 3 weeks. At this period there was still the risk of other persons becoming infected with the disease. It is only to be

hoped that in future proper precautions will be taken and that failing these action will be taken by your Council.

Paythorne School was closed—measles being prevalent—from May 21st to June 11th. On May 19th only 14 out of 33 children were present ; the average attendance for the week ending May 21st was 17.

On August 5th I found that at Bashall Eaves School owing to measles only 14 out of a possible 26 scholars were in attendance. For the week ending August 7th there had only been an attendance of 44%. I therefore advised the closure of the School until August 23rd.

MILK SUPPLY.

No Samples were taken by the Local Authority for analysis or bacteriological examination.

A Veterinary Surgeon is called in when required.

There was no disease traced to the Milk supply last year.

There are 140 Cow-keepers in the district, all of whom are registered. I understand that 76 of these supply the Co-operative Wholesale Society, 62 send their milk by train, and 2 carry it into Clitheroe from West Bradford. 6 Cow-keepers are milk-sellers also. No person other than cow-keepers purvey milk.

The approximate number of milch cows is 2,800, and the number of cow-sheds is estimated at 700.

From a town in West Lancashire the Sanitary Inspector received a report that milk from a certain farm in the district was obtained from a cow which was suffering from tuberculosis. Unfortunately the report came several weeks after

the cow had been disposed of. There is no doubt that tuberculosis can be transferred to human beings from cattle and stricter regulations ought to be in force in regard thereto. The only way to deal with the question is to encourage every cow-keeper who is in possession of a cow affected with the disease to have it inspected by a Veterinary Surgeon approved by the Local Authority, and if it is found to be suffering from the disease adequate compensation should be made and the cow destroyed.

A stricter supervision of the milk supply would undoubtedly result in a diminution of tuberculosis.

OTHER FOODS.

No samples were taken and no seizures of unsound food were made.

There are 6 slaughter-houses, which are all registered and kept in a satisfactory condition.

There are no bake-houses in the district and no public abattoir.

In conjunction with the milk supply I have commented on the fact that all animals should be inspected both before and after being slaughtered.

On July 20th a note was received from the District Food Commissioner stating that any applications for the registration of a slaughter-house, the retailing of meat, the registration of retailers of bread and milk must have the approval of the Medical Officer of Health, or the Sanitary Inspector. Now that food is decontrolled this regulation cannot be enforced as it ought to be.

Where there is any reason to suspect that any death or outbreak of illness results from food poisoning, full enquiries have to be made in these cases and every possible means taken to prevent the spread of the disease. The Ministry of Health will give every possible assistance for treatment, &c., of the disease.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The work is undertaken by the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Burrow, and myself. Previously I had the assistance of an Assistant Sanitary Inspector. I have pointed out in former reports how essential it is to have this additional help, but so far without avail. If all the urgent questions are to be dealt with, this must be provided.

An arrangement has been made with several other Local Authorities in the West Riding of Yorkshire whereby all cases of Small-pox arising in the district can be transferred to a Hospital in Skipton.

At present there is no hospital in the district for any form of infectious disease.

SPECIAL REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS.

There have been none during the year.

CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The County Medical Officer will examine any specimens sent to him. I have no record of any being sent during the year.

OTHER SERVICES.

All cases of Venereal Disease may be sent to any of the following Hospitals for diagnosis and treatment :—

Bradford Royal Infirmary

Dewsbury Infirmary

Halifax, Leeds, Sheffield, and York Hospitals.

The only connection the Council has with any other Authority is that most of its members are members of the Clitheroe Board of Guardians, and thus help to administer the Poor Law of the district.

PREVALENCE & CONTROL OF ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

A supply of Diphtheria anti-toxine is given whenever required.

There have been no cases of Encephalitis lethargica or "return" cases of scarlet fever.

There have been no cases of dysentery or trench fever.

As stated from my last Report and from another year's observations, I still consider the notification of pneumonia very essential. It helps to point out the seriousness of the disease and also to a large extent ensures proper nursing.

I have commented in a previous part of my Report in regard to the outbreak of scarlet fever.

There is no delay in the notification of tuberculosis ; as soon as these cases are notified particulars are forwarded to the County Medical Officer.

14 cases of infectious disease have been notified to me during the year, consisting of :

Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	5	Cases
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	1	Case
Measles	..	..	..	..	4	Cases
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	3	Cases
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	1	Case.

SCARLET FEVER.

All the 5 cases arose in the Gisburn district. Undoubtedly all these resulted from previous cases not being isolated long enough. Fortunately the disease was of a mild type.

DIPHTHERIA.

A child aged 3 years residing in the Gisburn district suffered from the disease ; its origin could not be traced. In 1919 there was one case.

MEASLES.

4 cases have been notified as compared with 20 last year. Of these, 3 occurred in females, 2 being under and one over 10 years of age.

PNEUMONIA.

There were 3 cases notified, none of which were fatal. In addition to these I notice from the death returns that seven persons died as a result of the disease, none of which were notified. Six cases were reported in 1919.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF TUBERCULOSIS.

One case was notified. It was of the pulmonary type and occurred in a female under 40 years of age. A request was made for admission to a sanatorium.

In cases of tuberculosis the house is visited, leaflets supplied and disinfectants given as required.

During the year I visited Slaidburn, where 2 children were suspected to be suffering from Diphtheria. The tests proved to be negative.

There have been no primary vaccinations or re-vaccinations under the Public Health (Small-Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

In the event of any outbreak of Encephalitis lethargica the Local Authority can, with the sanction of the Ministry of Health provide medical (including nursing) assistance for the poorer inhabitants of the district.

The number of cases of Venereal Disease are not very numerous in the district.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The County Authority mostly undertakes the inspection of Midwives. No scheme for attending to the health of expectant Mothers and Children under 5 years of age in the district is in operation, the only help we have is that of the notifications of births and the assistance of the Ribblesdale Nursing Association.

MEANS OF PREVENTING MORTALITY IN CHILDREN AND INFANTS.

6 died (4 males and 2 females) under one year of age,. This gives an infantile mortality of 59, as compared with 30 for last year, and 28 for 1918. This is the highest since 1915, when it was 90. In that year there were 3 more deaths and almost the same number of births. Throughout England and Wales the rate was 80.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTH-RATE.

The Registrar-General gives the number of births as 106, 69 of which were males and 37 females—there were therefore 32 more males born than females. With a population of 5,293 this gives a birth-rate of 20.02 per thousand, as compared with 18.48 for 1919, 14.35 for 1918. This is the highest birth-rate since 1911, when it was 21.1.

2 male births were illegitimate.

The average birth-rate for the last 5 years is 16.3. Throughout England and Wales it was 25.4.

DEATH-RATE.

33 males and 29 females died during the year. This gives a total of 62. Eight of these died outside the district and one non-resident died in this district. The death-rate for the year is 11.71 per thousand, as compared with 11.19 in 1919, 16.69, in 1918 ; 11.24, in 1917 ; and 10.08 in 1916. Throughout England and Wales the death-rate was 12.4. Two of the deaths were uncertified.

Of the Children who died under one year, 4 were aged one month and under, one aged 2 months, and one aged 7 months. 8 died aged 80 years and over. 29 of the deaths occurred in the Gisburn district, 17 in the Slaiburn district, and 16 in the Clitheroe district. There were none in the Whalley district.

Seven of the deaths resulted from pneumonia, 8 from heart-disease, and 3 from cancer.

H O U S I N G .

GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS IN DISTRICT.

In the district we have at least 46 houses with one bedroom, 214 with 2 bedrooms, giving a total of 260 houses with 2 bedrooms and under out of 1,152 houses in the district.

There are in Bolton-by-Bowland 3 houses with only one bedroom, 3 in Gisburn, one in Grindleton, one in Mytton, one in Newsholme, 2 in Rimington, and 2 in Waddington.

Of the houses with 2 bedrooms, 4 are in Bashall Eaves, 20 in Bolton-by-Bowland, 28 in West Bradford, 20 in Gisburn, 34 in Grindleton, 15 in Rimington, 12 in Sawley, 15 in Slaidburn, and 41 in Waddington.

I estimate the number of houses with serious defects to be at least 6%, and with minor defects at least 32%.

In my last Report I pointed out that one of the houses with one bedroom had 3 occupants, another 4 ; and of the houses with 2 bedrooms there were 15 with 5 occupants, 6 with 6 ; 6 with 7 ; and 3 with 8. Of the houses with 3 bedrooms, there were 6 with 7 occupants, 4 with 8, one with 9, and one with 11.

There are 41 houses with only a ground floor.

THE EXTENT OF SHORTAGE OR EXCESS OF HOUSES.

I have previously stated that 12 new houses are required at Grindleton, 12 at Gisburn, 12 at West Bradford, and possibly 8 at Waddington. In addition a very large percentage of the houses need repairs to make them habitable.

MEASURES TAKEN OR CONTEMPLATED TO MEET ANY SHORTAGE.

Plans have been passed for the erection of 9 houses at Gisburn, but the work has not been commenced.

At Grindleton, 3,620 square yards of land have been purchased for the building of 6 houses.

A site has not yet been purchased at West Bradford.

The estimated population for the year is 5,293 ; last year it was 5,090.

For a number of years there will be a big influx of workmen as the Fylde Water Board has commenced work at Dalehead and district.

OVERCROWDING.

Probably 10% of the houses will be overcrowded.

Of the 26 houses inspected this year no case of overcrowding was found. There were 8 last year. The chief causes of overcrowding are the shortage of houses and also the inefficient measures for dealing with the houses inspected.

FITNESS OF HOUSES.

The Ministry of Health applies two standards to houses, one where the house is quite fit for human habitation, the other where there are certain marked privileges which greatly help towards the comfort and happiness of the families inhabiting the houses. In their present condition—very few repairs having been done—probably only a small number would be found fit to be placed in the former category and certainly none in the second.

General defects found in houses are defective roofs, defective windows, dampness, defective drains, bad ventilation, living rooms too low; bad condition of walls, overcrowding, eaves gutters required, no proper place for storing food, etc.

GENERAL ACTION TAKEN AS REGARDS UNFIT HOUSES.

Under Section 15 (3) Housing and Town-Planning Act, Notices have been Served on the Owners of 5 houses ; one situated in Slaidburn, one in Waddington, 2 in West Bradford, and one in Gisburn. Representations in regard to most of these were made several years ago.

As regards the defects which are due to the lack of proper management and supervision by Owners, it will be impossible to get these remedied unless compelled to do so by the Local Authority.

So far very little has been done to secure improved management of property, and it has been found impossible to have all the insanitary property remedied. The chief difficulty is that on reporting certain repairs necessary for the house, practically no action is taken.

During the year 26 houses were inspected.

In Gisburn, 3 were inspected	..	..	2 found defective
In Waddington 7 were inspected	..	3	Do.
In Bolton, 4 were inspected	..	3	Do.
In Paythorne 2 were inspected	..	1	Do.
In Whitewell, 3 were inspected	..	Nil.	Do.
In Newton, 4 were inspected	..	Nil.	Do.
In Bashall Eaves 1 was inspected	..	1	Do.
In Newsholme, 1 was inspected	..	1	Do.
In Slaidburn, 1 was inspected	..	1	Do.
Total Houses Inspected	..	26	12 found Defective.

The Defects were :—

Dampness	..	..	..	..	4
Defective Windows	..	..	..	..	7
Defective Eaves-gutters			..	..	5
Defective Ceiling	..	..	..	..	1
Defective Drainage	..	..	..	..	2
Floor Needing Repair	..	..	..	..	1
Extra Closet Needed	..	..	..	..	1

It will be seen from the above table that some of the houses had more than one defect.

At the end of the year one estimates that the houses not reasonably fit for human habitation are 38—the houses totally unfit for human habitation 16—those with minor defects, 182.

I have mentioned in a previous part of my report that the Water Supply could be improved in various parts of the district.

In many houses better closet accommodation should be provided.

The refuse is now disposed of by the Council, and the work is satisfactorily done.

During the year, 2 houses—not working-class dwellings have been built.

There are 4 obstructive buildings in the district.

UNHEALTHY AREAS.

No complaints received or representations made under Part I or Part II of the Housing Act, of 1890.

BYE-LAWS RELATING TO HOUSES, TO HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS AND TO TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, &c.

There are efficient existing Bye-Laws relating to houses and very little need for any new Bye-Laws.

GENERAL MISCELLANEOUS.

For several years a great number of inspections of property have been made, numerous representations made, but so far very little effective work has been done. Also in regard to overcrowding, remedying insanitary property and housing in general, the work has practically been nil.

APPENDICES.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

STATISTICS.

YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1920.

1.—GENERAL.

(1)	Estimated Population	..	..	..	..	5,293
(2)	General Death-rate	..	..	..	..	11.71
(3)	Death-rate from Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	.56
(4)	Infantile Mortality	..	..	..	..	59
(5)	Number of Dwelling-houses of all Classes	..	..	..	..	1,152
(6)	Number of Working-class Dwelling-houses	..	..	..	..	1,100
(7)	Number of New Working-Class houses erected	..	..	..	..	Nil.

2.—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

1.—INSPECTION.

(1)	Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	..	..	..	..	26
-----	---	----	----	----	----	----

- (2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 26
- (3) Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation Nil.
- (4) Number of Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 12

II.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of Defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers Nil.

III.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A.—Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919 :

- (1) Number of Dwelling-douses in respect of which Notices were Served requiring repairs .. Nil.
- (2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit
 - (a) by Owners Nil.
 - (b) by Local Authority in default of Owners Nil.

C. Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.

- (1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders Nil.
- (2) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil.
- (3) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the Dwelling-houses having been rendered fit Nil.

- (4) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which
Demolition Orders were made Nil.
- (5) Number of Dwelling-houses demolished in pur-
suance of Demolition Orders Nil.

3.—UNHEALTHY AREAS.

Areas represented to the Local Authority with a view to
Improvement Schemes under (a) Part I., or (b) Part II.
of the Act of 1890 :—

- (1) Name of Area Nil.
- (2) Acreage Nil.
- (3) Number of Working-class houses in area .. Nil.
- (4) Number of Working-class Persons to be displaced Nil.

4.—Number of Houses not complying with the Build-
ing Bye-Laws erected with consent of Local
Authority under Section 25 of the Housing,
Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919 Nil.

5.—Staff engaged on Housing Work with, briefly, the
duties of each Officer

M. Burrow & Self.

Nuisance Inspector's Report

FOR YEAR 1920.



I herewith submit to you my Annual Report for the past year.

There are at the present time 52 Farmers within the Bowland Area who are registered Milk Sellrss, who send their Milk away by train into the Lancashire towns.

Also, I may add, since the Co-operative Wholesale Society opened out business in this part of the district, they are now collecting milk from 80 farms within the Bowland Area. Some of this milk is converted into cheese, some butter, and remainder sent to their various Depots in Lancashire.

I should estimate there is not far short of 5,000 gallons of New Milk per day collected and sent by train direct out of the Bowland Area.

There have been several minor improvements carried out at some of the farms in the District, but the cost of doing any large amount of improvements at the present time is almost prohibitive, on account of the high cost of labour and material, and the short hours now being done by the labouring class.

At the present time there is only one Knacker's Yard in the district, which has got a Licence. I have visited this place 8 times during the past year and always found the place in a satisfactory state.

With regard to Slaughter Houses, there are 5 within the district which are registered, and in a satisfactory state. There is also one Slaughter-House which is outside the registration area, where the cattle are slaughtered and the meat taken into Barnoldswick for sale.

Scavenging is carried out in the following Villages by the Council's own Workmen, and carts, viz: Bolton-by-Bowland and Holden, West Bradford, Grindleton, Bank Bottom, Waddington, Slaidburn, and Newton. I may say this work has been done in a very satisfactory way since the Council took the work into their own hands.

Building of new Houses is practically at a standstill on account of the excessive cost of materials and labour. It is impossible at the present time to build Houses to pay any interest for the outlay. There has been two Houses erected during the past year under the Assisted Government Subsidy.

Disinfectants are regularly supplied along with the scavenging cart when on its rounds ; also to all Schools, and where infectious disease cases have been reported.

I remain,

Yours truly,

A. BURROW,

Inspector of Nuisances.

Gisburn,

1921.

